

# **WOMEN: A PERSPECTIVE**



# Brief History of the Women's Movement

**Colonial Times: 1700-1800**

**Westward Expansion:  
1800-1847**

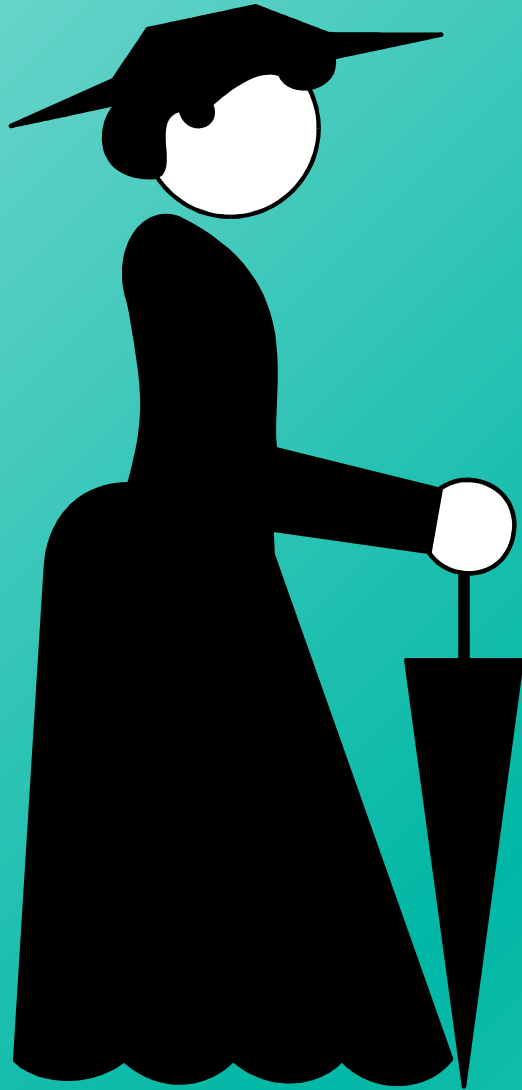
**The Women's Rights  
Movement: 1848-  
1900**

**The Women's Movement:  
1900-1950**

**MODERN TIMES - 1950 TO PRESENT**



# Colonial Times: 1700-1800



**Women's work could be extremely difficult, exhausting, and society was generally unappreciative**

**Social pressure to marry had young girls often married by the age of 13 or 14**

**Married women had no control of their earnings, inheritance, or property and could not vote**

**Colonial women knew how to threaten, force, and even kill someone in defense. Guns were owned by just a few, so women grew accustomed to using axes, knives, and gardening/household tools for defense.**

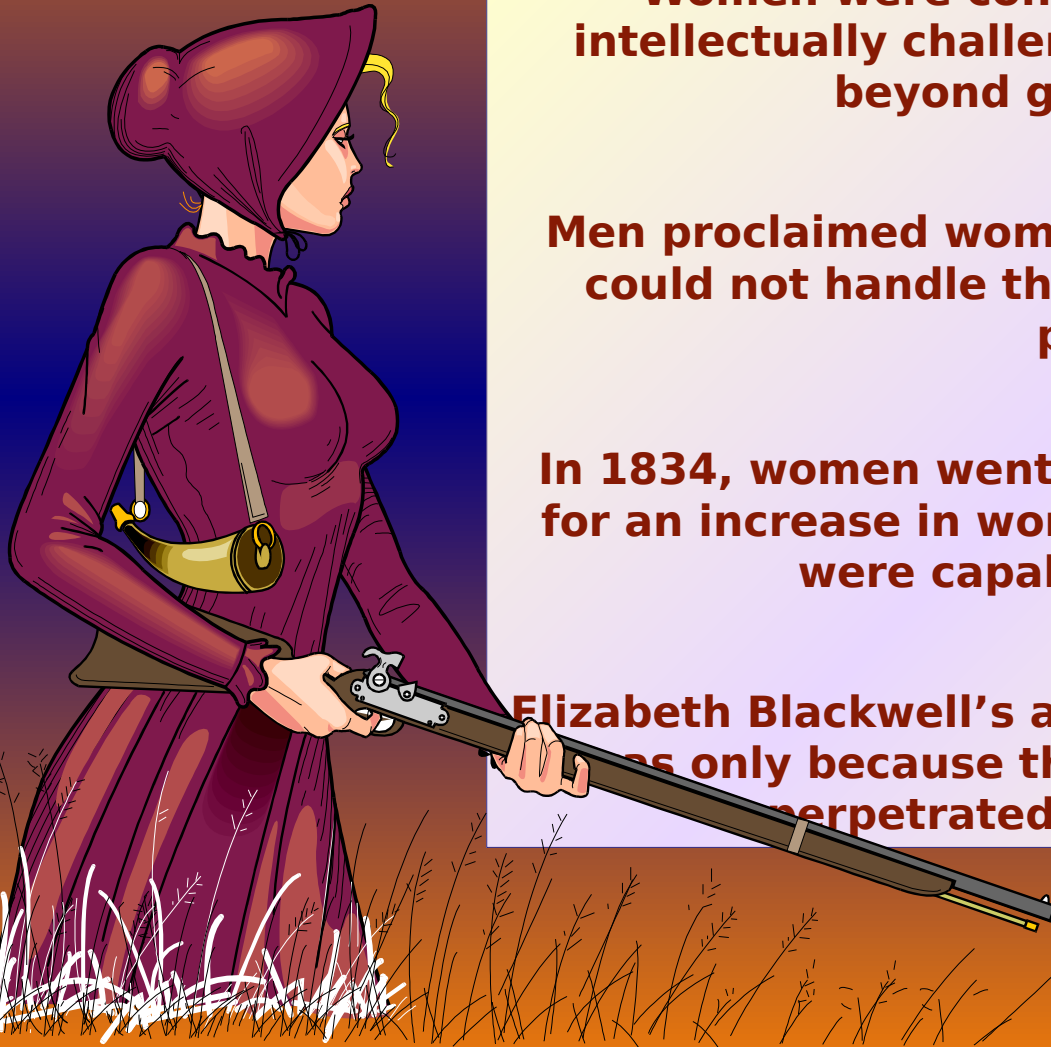
# Westward Expansion: 1800-1847

**Women were considered feeble minded, intellectually challenged, and could not study beyond grammar school**

**Men proclaimed women were too emotional and could not handle the extra stress involved in politics**

**In 1834, women went on strike at the Lowell Mill for an increase in working hours proving women were capable of organizing**

**Elizabeth Blackwell's acceptance to medical school was only because they thought it was a hoax perpetrated by a rival college**



# **THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT 1848-1900**



**Speaker:  
Elizabeth  
Cady  
Stanton**

**Began July 1848 at a women's tea gathering**

**Daringly agreed to convene first Women's  
Rights Convention**

**Passed "Declaration of Sentiments"**

**Backlash began, but negative newspaper  
articles for expanded rights were so livid  
and widespread they actually had a positive  
impact**

**Anti-suffrage movement felt all women  
were feeble minded, frail, physically weak,  
vulnerable, and intellectually inferior to  
men**

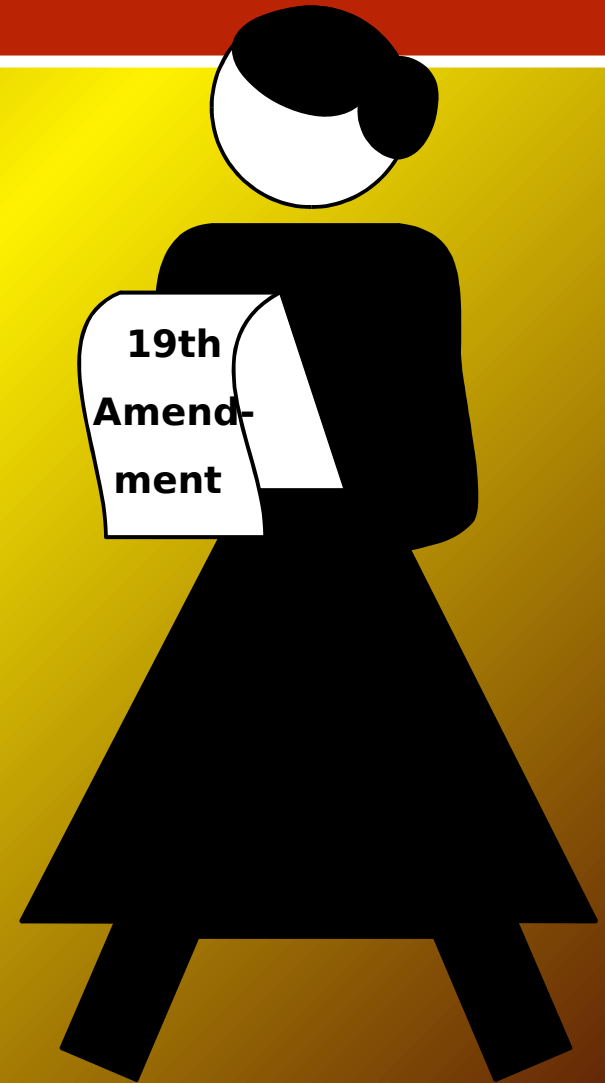
# **The Women's Movement: 1900-1950**

**Women's organizations began to focus on their concerns and rights**

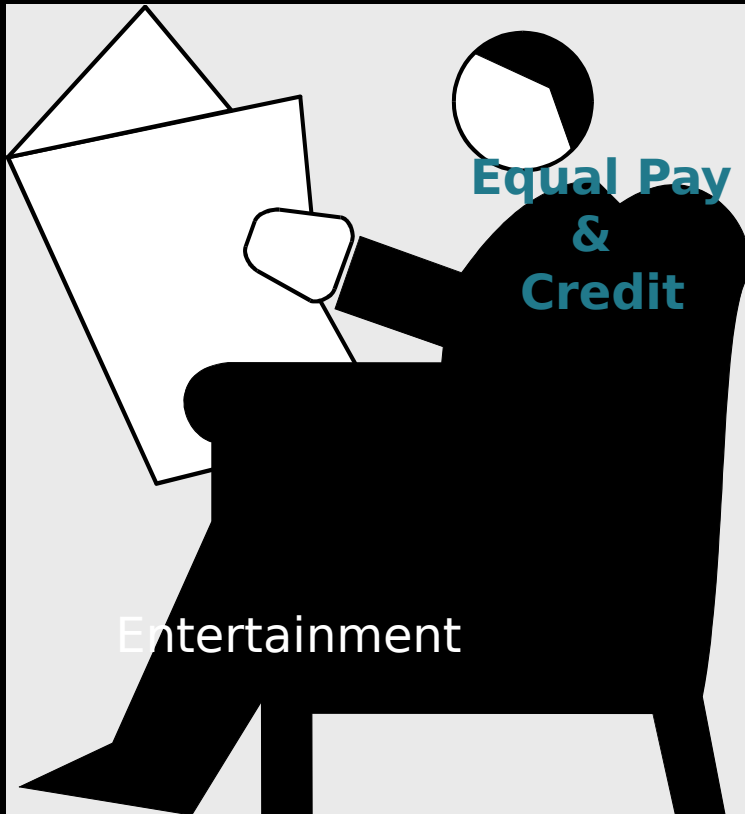
**After repeated rejections by Congress of the Women's Suffrage Amendment, women were arrested, jailed, and received national press coverage after organizing round the clock picket lines in front of the White House**

**The 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote was certified on 26 August 1920**

**World War II brought six million women into the work force**



# MODERN TIMES - 1950 TO PRESENT



**Second wave of women's activism  
washed into the public  
consciousness in the 1960's**

**Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act  
passed**

**Financial liberation a dramatic  
impact of the women's rights  
movement**

**Third wave confronting current  
issues**

**1998 marked the 150th  
Anniversary of a movement by  
women to achieve full civil rights in  
this country**

# A Few Notable Women



**Harriet Tubman: An important Union spy and scout who escaped from slavery**



**Eleanor Roosevelt: Took her job seriously traveling the country and world to gather information about the problems and concerns of workers, children, minorities, and the poor**

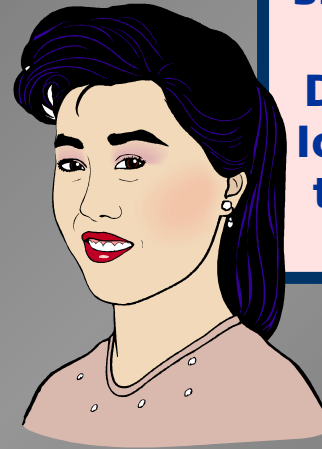
**Madeleine Albright: Celebrating the 50th anniversary of her arrival in the U.S., she renewed her Oath of Allegiance on 11 Nov 98**







**Wilma Mankiller:**  
First woman  
Principal  
Chief of the  
Cherokee  
Nation



**Kristi Yamaguchi:**  
Olympian Gold Medal  
skater who continues  
to tour with  
Discover's "Stars on  
Ice" while dedicating  
time to the Make-A-  
Wish Foundation



**Gloria Estefan:** Music has  
fueled a superstar career  
paved in gold and  
platinum

**Opra Winfrey:**  
Success story of  
focused  
determination; first  
woman to own and  
produce her own  
show



**Don't be afraid your life will  
end; be afraid that it will never  
begin.**

***Grace Hansen***

**Do not call for black power  
or green power. Call for  
brain power. *Barbara  
Jordan***

**Mistake  
s are  
part of  
the  
dues  
one  
pays  
for a  
full life.  
*Sophia  
Loren***

## **QUOTABLE WOMEN**

**We don't  
see things  
as they  
are. We  
see them  
as we are.  
*Anais Nin***

**A gossip is someone who talks to you about others; a bore is  
someone who talks to you about themselves; and a brilliant  
conversationalist is one who talks to you about yourself. *Lisa Kirk***

# A QUIZ!

Which mother led a 125-mile march of child workers all the way from the mills of Pennsylvania to President Theodore Roosevelt's vacation home on Long Island?

Before the 1960s, farm workers in the U.S. were not paid even the minimum wage and had no influential representatives to fight for their rights. What part did Dolores Huerta play in changing this situation?

She is regarded as the greatest ballerina born in America. Her father was the Chief of the Osage Indians. Who is she?

Her 1939 Easter Sunday concert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial drew a crowd of 75,000. Who was she, and why was she singing there?

She came to the U.S. when she was a teenager to study science; she stayed to become "the world's foremost female experimental physicist." Her most famous experiment disproved what had been thought to be a fundamental scientific law. Who is this outstanding Asian-American scientist?

# QUIZ ANSWERS!

**The feisty labor organizer, Mary Harris Jones (1830-1930) did just that in 1903. Called “Mother” Jones by everyone, her goal for the march was to bring the evils of child labor to the attention of the President and the national press.**

**Dolores Huerta, a long-time Chicano labor activist, co-founded the United Farm Workers union in 1962. She served for over two decades as the union’s vice-president and chief lobbyist, savvy labor contract negotiator, and speaker.**

**Maria Tallchief gained international stardom as prima ballerina of the New York City Ballet in a career that spanned 23 years. In 1980, she and her sister, Marjorie, founded the Chicago City Ballet.**

**Marian Anderson, who had earlier been barred from singing in Washington’s Constitution Hall because she was Black. Her open-air concert was a triumph over bigotry for this international star.**

**Chien-Shiung Wu has received both the National Science Medal and the internationally respected Wolf prize for her scientific research. Her most famous experiment showed that conservation of parity could be violated in nature.**

# Women's Business Ownership

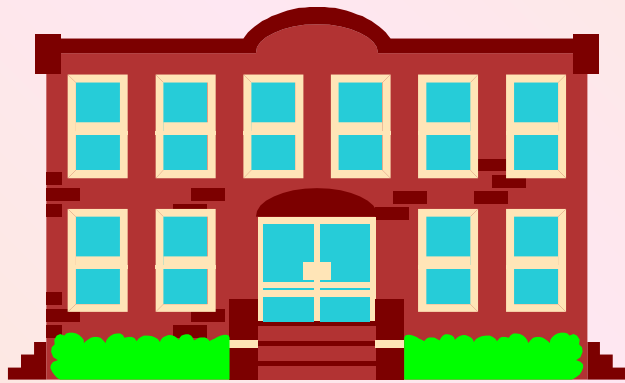


**Women are starting new firms at twice the rate of all other businesses**

**They own nearly 40 percent of all firms in the U.S.**

**These 8 million firms employ 18.5 million -- one in every five workers**

**Contribute \$2.3 trillion to the economy**

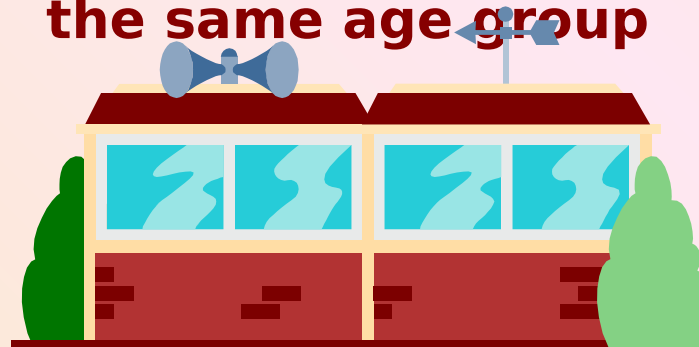


## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

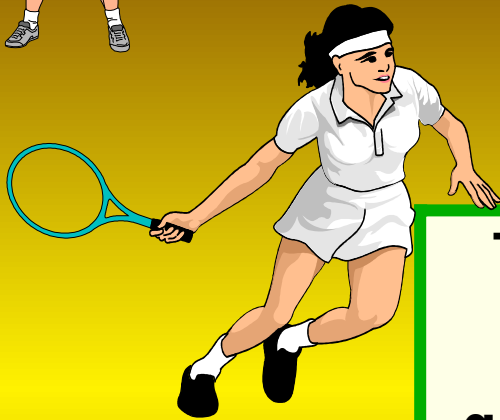
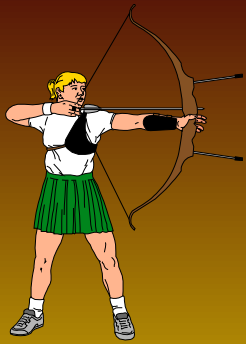


**In 1995, for women aged 25 and over, 82 percent had at least a high school diploma; 46 percent had completed some college; and 20 percent had earned at least a bachelor's degree**

**In 1997, the educational attainment levels of women ages 25 to 29 exceeded those of men in the same age group**

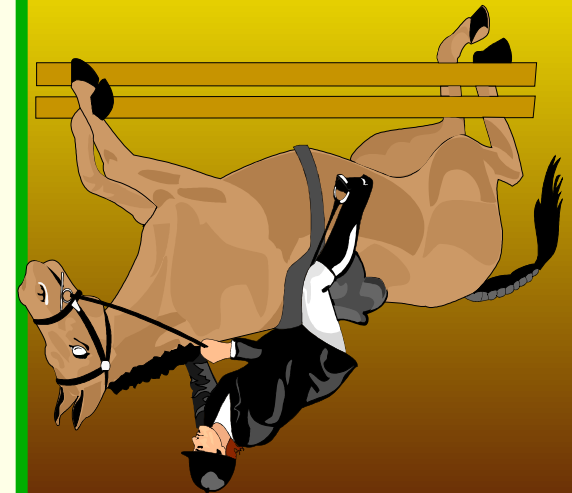


# WOMEN AND SPORTS



**Thanks to Title IX, the federal law passed in 1972 that prohibits gender discrimination in sports, more and more girls and young women have the opportunity to participate**

**During the 1996 Summer Olympics, more women participated than ever before**



# INTERESTING STATISTICS

**In 1970, married couples with children made up 40 percent of households; in 1995, it was 25 percent**

**In 1970, 5.6 million families were maintained by women with no husband present; in 1995, it was 12.2 million families**

**An increase in the number of married women in the work force contributed to a 150 percent increase in the real median income of married-couple families between 1947 and 1997**

**Women are becoming better represented in many professions.**

**From 1983 to 1995, women lawyers climbed from 15% to 26%, physicians rose from 16% to 24%, and economists rose from 38% to 50%**

**Women vote in greater numbers than men. In 1992, 62% of women voted vs 60% of men. In 1988, it was 58% for women compared to 56% for men**



**Women are 52% of the  
adult population and  
represent. . .**

**6% of State  
Governors**

**18% of State  
Senators**

**23% of State  
Representative  
s**

**9% of State  
Judges**

**GENDER GAP  
IN  
GOVERNMENT**

**20% of Big City  
Mayors**

**21% of the  
Cabinet**

**9% of the  
U.S. Senate**

**12.9% of the  
U.S. House**

**13% of  
Federal  
Judges**

**22% of the  
U.S. Supreme  
Court**



# **THE WEAKER SEX?**

**Women were long considered naturally weaker than men, squeamish, and unable to perform work requiring muscular or intellectual development**

**Physiological tests now suggest that women have a greater tolerance for pain, and statistics reveal that women live longer and are more resistant to many diseases**



**Note  
pages on  
several  
charts  
provide  
additional  
informati  
on**

